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Forest Insect Laboratory,
445 U. S. Court House,
Portland, Oregon,
April 25, 1938.

Mr. C. W. Collins,
8 Whippany Road,
Morristown, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Collins:

Thanks very much for your letter of April 16 enclosing Mr. Webber's memorandum of March 26 in regard to methods of collecting, rearing, and dissecting satin moth larvae for parasites, and for the keys giving separating characters for the various species.

The time and effort which Mr. Webber has taken in preparing this exceedingly helpful memorandum is very much appreciated, and his discussion of the difficulties involved in the thorough study of the status of the satin moth parasites is thoroughly convincing. We of course had no intention of taking over this study or of making detailed observations such as he made in 1935. In fact, as he has pointed out, lack of experience in this work would seriously hamper us. Furthermore, our station work is such that very little time could be allotted to a satin moth survey. At the most, we had hoped to get a general idea of the present status of satin moth infestation in Oregon and Washington and possibly something of the spread of the introduced parasites by sampling at a few key points. It was believed that this information would be of value to whoever might make the detailed follow-up of the work.

For example, Mr. Furniss has been able to rear two species of parasites from the hibernaculae this spring. One of these, which may be Eupteromalus, was taken at South Bellingham and Olympia, Wash., and Monmoth, Oreg. Even if it proves to be a native, it is of considerable interest, since it was taken in some numbers at these points. Mortality of overwintering satin moth larvae was extremely heavy at several places. Observations such as these we felt would be helpful in interpreting the course of subsequent infestations and the spread of parasites.

In accordance with a suggestion made by Dr. Craighead, we plan to make only general observations of the satin moth in connection with other station work this season. That is, we will

keep records such as we do with other minor pests in the region on relative abundance, trees attacked, localities, and the like.

The box of determined material arrived in good condition several days ago. We are at a loss to know what became of the dipterous material from Gervais, Oreg., (Hopk. U.S. 18,879-C). Apparently we have misplaced it.

Very sincerely yours,

F. P. KEEN

F. P. Keen,
Senior Entomologist,
Forest Insect Investigations.

Copy to Dr. Craighead.

fpk/ec